

City of Milwaukie
Milwaukie Park and Recreation Board (PARB)
MEETING MINUTES
City Hall Conference Room
April 26, 2017

Members Present: Lisa Gunion-Rinker (Chair), Lisa Lashbrook (Vice Chair), Linda Blue, Ben Johnson, Andrew Craig, and Martha Germany

Staff/Visitors: Mitchell Nieman (City Staff Liaison), Jerry Craig (American Legion), Gary Klein (Riverfront Task Force/Historic Milwaukie NDA/Kellogg Good Neighbor Committee), Milo Denham (Budget Committee/Island Station NDA), Susie Peterson (Columbia Land Trust), Bruce Palone, Ken Vigil, Greg Hemer (Planning Commission Chair/Linwood NDA)

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Gunion-Rinker called the meeting to order at 4:30pm

Review & Approve March 2017 Minutes

Lisa Lashbrook moved to approve the March minutes, **Member Blue** seconded, and motion passed unanimously.

Backyard Habitat Certification Program

Susie Peterson, Columbia Land Trust representative, gave a power point presentation reviewing the goals of the Backyard Habitat Certification Program that is now available to citizens in the Milwaukie area. PARB members asked questions about the program and were enthusiastic that this program will provide education to citizens about wildlife habitat, and the value of native plants and trees. It was decided that a letter from Parks in support of this program would be drafted, approved, and sent to WES.

City Liaison update

Mr. Nieman reported that the contract with NCPRD had been finalized for Wichita Park. The project is slated to have its first project meeting. He also stated that Chuck Eaton will be having a meeting for Kronberg Park and the scoping of the project with NCPRD and coordination with ODOT. The transfer of Elk Rock Island to the City of Milwaukie was approved by both city councils. There will be meetings on a seasonal basis to ensure the upkeep of the Island to Metro Standards is upheld. There was a suggestion by PARB to utilize Mart Hughes knowledge of the Island in the future. Mr. Nieman also reported that someone had been feeding geese in Milwaukie Bay/Riverfront Park, and were deliberately placing cracked corn by the educational signs about geese. It was determined that this was detrimental to the geese hazing process and people should be encouraged to report any activity like this to the city or NCPRD.

NCPRD Liaison update

Kevin? stated that the Scott Park sidewalk connection to the condominiums was moving forward along with some new native plantings, and the boat ramp docks would also be returning shortly. He also

reported that the grass had been aerated and reseeded in Milwaukie Bay/Riverfront Park. NCPRD had also just finished cleaning up Klein Point after it had been graffitied over the weekend. There was discussion that this should be reported to Tim Salyers, city code enforcement, but it was determined that Tim had reported it to NCPRD. He also commented that the Earth Day event went well.

Milwaukie Parks Foundation (MPF)

Chair Gunion-Rinker stated that the 501c3 bylaws subcommittee had been submitted to Adam ? , and were waiting for feedback before having another subcommittee meeting hopefully before the next PARB meeting in May.

Riverfront Park Planting Plan

Mr. Nieman stated that Phase 3 of Milwaukie Bay/Riverfront Park had been named as one of councils three main goals for this year. The next interium planting plan meeting will be held on May 4th. Member Johnson will act as the PARB representative at this meeting and meetings related to this project due to his expertise and involvement in this plan.

Riverfront Park Renaming

Mr. Nieman stated that council had voted to officially dissolve the Riverfront Task Force Board. **Chair Gunion-Rinker** asked for a motion to vote to petition the renaming of Milwaukie Riverfront Park to Milwaukie Bay Park. **Lashbrook** moved, **Blue** seconded. The Board voted unanimously to petition the renaming of Milwaukie Riverfront Park to Milwaukie Bay Park. Also, it was agreed upon by all members that the renaming process would include all the NDA's and a comment period of 30 days would be given to all neighborhoods about renaming the park from Riverfront to Milwaukie Bay before it went before council. Gary Klein, former Riverfront Task Force Board Member, stated that he would like to remain involved with the park and it was determined that in the future he be included in a subcommittee when projects triggered the need for one. He also stated that a few items were needed in the park such as garbage cans in various areas.

Elk Rock Island update

Mr. Nieman stated that he and Chair Gunion-Rinker had attended a walk-through the island with representatives from NCPRD, BES, and PP&R. It was a good update and invasive plant management future needs discussion with NCPRD and PP&R will be happening shortly, and work parties will be scheduled with the Friends of Elk Rock Island group. **Mr. Nieman** introduced Greg Hemer and Milo ? to discuss the renaming of Elk Rock Island to Whitcomb Island after Lot Whitcomb who originally owned this parcel of land. There was discussion concerning this issue and it was determined that this item be tabled for further discussion at a later date.

Arbor Day

Mr. Nieman reported that the event was well attended and very successful. People came out even during the rain to celebrate Arbor Day, and many metro representatives were in attendance to

remember Lynn Sharp and her many contributions to the region.

NCPRD DAB Meeting Recap

Councilor Parks stated that there was no meeting in April and it was unlikely there would be a May meeting either.

Vietnam Memorial Sculpture

Mr. Neiman introduced **Bruce ??** to the group. He is a local artisan who was approached by the local chapter of the veterans group that had raised money from the Vietnam Memorial traveling wall event last year and wanted to create a memorial in Scott Park for Vietnam Veterans. Bruce stated that the memorial would be placed north of the existing pergola in the park. It would be an obelisk in the center of the planter and plantings would be kept up by the Daughters of the Revolution. It would also include a Q/R device where the user could scan with their phone and connect for further information about the memorial. The memorial would also include benches, a fused glass arch, and caps for the pillars of the pergola. The obelisk would have names and text on various sides. The group moved to approve the 1st phase of the project concerning the obelisk placement, but would wait to see what the Arts Committee determined before moving forward with the rest of the project. The Arts Committee is currently waiting for the design for the new library to see how it will impact the site.

Round Table Discussion

- Joint art/parks meeting: Everyone needs to retake the poll as there were dates added to it. Then we can see if there is a time when both boards can meet.
- Future meeting days and times: The May meeting will be held on May 24th at 4:30pm.
- Joel Bergman from the Milwaukie Rotary stated that the Rotary Club would like to buy tree or plants for the City of Milwaukie Parks. It was thought that some of the Riverfront Planting Plan plans could be purchased this way. Joel will be asked to come to the May meeting to discuss the Riverfront Park Plan.
- Tree board applications have been submitted for review and will be sent to Lisa L, Lisa GR, and Linda B for review before council and staff start the interview process.

Adjournment – A motion to adjourn was made by **Vice Chair Lisa Lashbrook** with a second by **Member Blue**. Motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 6:05pm

Prepared by: Lisa Gunion-Rinker, Chair